

72901

4566-94-6420-14

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Coast Guard****33 CFR Part 187****[CGD 89-050]****RIN 2115-AD35****Vessel Identification System; Effective Date Change****AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DOT.**ACTION:** Interim final rule: change in effective date.

part 187, subpart D is suspended effective February 23, 1996 through April 23, 1998.

**Dated:** February 14, 1996.

**Joseph H. Angelo,**

*Director for Standards, Office of Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection.*

[FR Doc. 96-3895 Filed 2-22-96; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-14-M**

**SUMMARY:** On April 25, 1995, the Coast Guard published an interim final rule in the Federal Register (60 FR 20310) for establishing a vessel identification system and prescribing guidelines for State vessel titling systems. The effective date of the interim final rule was April 24, 1996. This document suspends the effective date of the guidelines for the State vessel titling systems for a period of two years.

**EFFECTIVE DATES:** This document is effective February 23, 1996. 33 CFR part 187, subpart D, is suspended through April 23, 1998. All other provisions of the interim final rule will become effective on April 24, 1996, as stated in the interim final rule.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lieutenant Commander Richard Ferraro, Project Manager, Information Resources Division (G-MIR-3), Office of Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection, (202) 267-0386, between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** One provision of the interim final rule prescribes the procedures for obtaining certification of compliance with guidelines for State vessel titling systems. Many comments pointed out that compliance of the States with these guidelines may create undue hardship upon the marine industry where titling, vessel documentation, mortgage recording, and lending institutions are concerned. The delay in the effective date until April 24, 1998, was deemed necessary in order to allow the Coast Guard, States, and the public time to further review the complexities of the State titling guideline issues identified during review of the comments received regarding this interim final rule. A delay of two years should provide sufficient time to complete the rulemaking on vessel titling guidelines.

All other provisions of the interim final rule will become effective on April 24, 1996.

Accordingly, under the authority of 46 U.S.C. 2103; 49 CFR 1.46, 33 CFR